

## On the Firing Line

If you will take copies of The Menace for the last three issues, you will notice that the subscription receipts have been going down, down, down.

Every worker on the Firing Line has received a letter from us, asking, stating the necessity of immediate action in the matter of circulation building. We trust that every one who receives this letter will proceed to act on its suggestion at once, as we assure you that it is important.

The down grade movement of the circulation figures looks good to the hierarchy and its fat priests, but it doesn't look good to us. In last week's issue we suggested a way to start the figures upward quick, and that was for the members of secret, fraternal and fraternal orders to get busy and have the lodges to which they belong subscribe for a bundle for a year, to be distributed to the members each meeting, or used in any way they think the cause will be most benefited. To those wishing to do something in this line we are making a rate on bundle subscriptions as follows:

25 copies, one year.....\$ 5.00  
50 copies, one year..... 10.00  
100 copies, one year..... 20.00  
250 copies, one year..... 50.00

This is certainly liberal in the matter of price, and there is no reason why all the patriotic organizations in the land should not take advantage of it.

While some of our best workers seem to have been nipped by the early frosts, many of the faithful are still in the trenches. The Menace money is not composed of summer soldiers and sunshine patriots, but they are always on the job, as the following remarks from here and there will show:

Richmond, Va.—"Your paper is a hammer, throw it at 'em, you are doing good work."

Cincinnati, Ohio—"I have been a subscriber of your paper for two months and think it is the best of its kind."

New York, N. Y.—"Hope you are gaining faster and faster. Can't see why New York don't wake up and join the big twelve."

Cincinnati, Ohio—"It is time for lovers of liberty, whether Protestants or free thinkers, to join hands against the Catholic beast."

Port Huron, Ill.—"I bid you God's speed in your good work against the greatest enemy of our civilized and religious liberty, Roman Catholicism."

Hancock, Mich.—"I think The Menace has struck the last art of awaking people from their lethargic sleep of oblivion to their proper duties, and is doing it."

Doer Run, Mo.—"The Menace is the very paper we have been looking for for a long time. Please accept these fourteen subs as a blow to ignorance and superstition."

Jersey City, N. J.—"Your paper fills a long felt want. Let the good work go on. We need such a paper very much in Jersey City, as our town is Rome ruled."

Galena, Ill.—"The more I read The Menace the more I like it. I just cannot keep from showing it to my friends, and there isn't a one that has a word against it."

Muscatine, Iowa—"The Knights of Columbus here are watching me like a hawk. This makes twenty-three for me, but it does not mean skidoo, as I am at it to stick."

Seattle, Wash.—"I did not know of the paper until I was handed a copy by a friend last week. The Menace is surely the 'Holy Water' that should be in every American home."

Altoona, Pa.—"A copy of your most valuable paper was placed in my hands some time ago and to say I was delighted would be putting it mildly. I am making the dirt fly."

Newburg, Mo.—"Your paper was sent me by a friend and I think it the greatest of its kind I have ever read. I am doing all I can to get it into other hands. God bless you in your work."

Baltimore, Md.—"These subs are young men, the kind we need in this great conflict against the Old Woman on the Tiber, the Man of Sin, the Great Beast that sits on the seven hills."

Springfield, Ill.—"I just received my first copy of The Menace. I am very much interested in the paper and I sincerely hope that your efforts against the Roman monster will be crowned with success."

Cincinnati, Ohio—"Have read three or four copies of your paper which a friend of mine lent me and will send you four subs in a few days. I would not do without a paper such as you are publishing for anything."

Allentown, Pa.—"I received a copy of The Menace from a friend of mine, so after I had read it I decided that it was just the paper every American needed, so I handed it around to a few of my friends, who, after reading it, were of the same opinion."

Goodman, Mo.—"I am teaching the same thing you are, and I am with you in sounding the alarm against the encroachments of Rome with all their pernicious teachings. God bless The Menace in its bold defense of the truth. I am with you and will circulate your publication."

Cardiff, Ohio—"I chanced upon a copy of The Menace today for the first time. I think you are truly brave to attempt so great and much needed cause. I pray the good seed you are sowing will soon flower. Would that I were able to advance thousands for so noble a cause."

Shelbyville, Wis.—"I recently received my first copy of The Menace. I sincerely wish this little paper could be put into the hands of every sane minded citizen in the United States. Let the good work go on. I shall send you a list of new subscribers in a short time. Good luck to you."

San Antonio, Tex.—"If there is a better paper in this great country than The Menace, on the subject of Rome and its rot, I would be thankful to find it. With I was financially able to send it into the home of every liberty loving man in America. The whole largest would be up in arms and would go to the greatest cause we are hampered with today."

Cynthiana, Ky.—"Your paper appears to get better and better. All who have subscribed so far are delighted with it. I have not yet shown it to any of my Catholic friends, but I will do so. I was myself raised among Catholics and was even baptized in that church, so when the priest here sick, I am going to make the priest here sick. I am closer to some of his members than he is—and he knows it. Some time when you print a number that will appeal to Catholics more especially I will send every member here a copy. His reverence will then quit speaking to me, even now he simply grunts when he passes. Trusting that Father Bullock will not deny me my slice of his pontifical high mass because of my baptism, (since I was an unconscious infant when it happened), I am yours truly."

## THE BIG TWELVE

The Big Twelve this week. Like the whole list, is on the toboggan. Buffalo is still in the lead and making the final home stretch for the one thousand mark. The fact that the gains for the last three weeks have been decreasing has somewhat angered Father Bullock, and he stubbornly refuses to give out a single word of cheer. The report at the last count follows:

	New Subs	Total
Buffalo, N. Y.	55	885
McKeesport, Pa.	19	784
Cincinnati, Ohio	28	617
Pittsburg, Pa.	50	621
Milwaukee, Wis.	27	515
Philadelphia, Pa.	37	508
Elizabeth, N. J.	34	489
Chicago, Ill.	61	352
N. Tonawanda, N. Y.	42	276
Minneapolis, Minn.	4	217
Savannah, Ga.	19	216
Duquesne, Pa.	8	164

## OUR ACROBATIC PRESIDENT

Press reports of the president's speech at Pocatello, Idaho, contain the following: "I love judges and I love courts. They are my ideals on earth that typify what we shall meet hereafter in heaven under a just God."

In his first annual message to congress, December, 1909, Mr. Taft said: "The deplorable delays in the administration of civil and criminal laws have received the attention of congress. \* \* \* I do not doubt for one moment that much of the lawless violence and cruelty exhibited in lynchings is directly due to the uncertainty and injustice growing out of the delays in trials, judgments and the execution thereof by our courts."

In his message of December, 1910, he said: "One great crying need in the United States is the cheapening of the cost of litigation by simplifying judicial procedure and expediting judgment. Under present conditions, the poor man is at a fearful disadvantage in a legal contest with a corporation or a rich opponent."

Much else in the same strain might be quoted from the president's utterances—suggesting, certainly, that his conceptions of heaven are deplorably inadequate. Away back in 1895, Mr. Taft, then a judge of the United States circuit court, said: "The opportunity freely and publicly to criticize judicial action is of vastly more importance to the body politic than the immunity of courts and judges from unjust aspersion and attack. \* \* \* But so-called professional criticism also is by no means without its uses, even if accompanied, as it often is, by direct attack upon the judicial fairness and motives of the occupants of the bench; for if the law is but the essence of common sense the protests of many average men may evidence a defect in judicial conclusions, though based on the nicest legal reasoning and profoundest learning."—Saturday Evening Post.

## FIG LEAVES FOR PAPAL ART

Famous Old Vatican Statues Now Appear in Modest Raiment.

Rome, Oct. 25.—The undressed statuary in the Vatican Art Gallery has just been getting into the same kind of figleaf raiment that the American sculptor, George Gray Barnard, had to put on his nude group at the Pennsylvania State Capitol recently. Just when the sartorial decoration was done is uncertain, but it can't have been long ago, for it was only noticed by visitors today. All Rome is talking about it.

The Vatican gallery has perhaps the largest collection of ancient statuary in the world. Most of the statues are nude and hitherto no one has found any fault with them. The Vatican authorities will not tell even now who issued the dressing order, but it is rumored that the pope himself gave it because it was felt that a bad moral effect was being produced upon the countless thousands of visitors who pass through the gallery every year from all corners of the globe.

The statues certainly cannot offend the most fastidious in their present attire, although the contrast between the time-stained marble of centuries ago and the plaster fig leaves of day before yesterday is rather striking.

Of course that American pope has not been elected yet, but the day of fulfillment of Dr. McGinnis's vision, when his Holiness should "walk down Fifth avenue in a frock coat and a silk hat," seems nearer than it did.

## MENACE SAMPLE COPY RATES

50 Copies to one address.....\$ 25  
100 Copies to one address..... 50  
250 Copies to one address..... 125  
500 Copies to one address..... 250

## DO ENEMIES PLAN TO SUPPRESS THE MENACE?

Authentic Rumors From Various Parts of the Nation Indicate a Fight For Existence.

For some reason, unknown to us, there seems to be a concerted effort on the part of Catholics in various parts of the country to bring The Menace to loggerheads with the postoffice department at Washington.

This game of attacking newspapers by bringing charges and grievances to the notice of postal authorities, is as old as the newspaper game itself, and is characteristic of cowards who are unable to contest their claims at the bar of public opinion.

The first authentic intimation we had that we were to be harassed in this manner came in several private letters from subscribers to The Menace at San Francisco, Cal. Complaints from this point followed from subscribers who claimed they had failed to receive their paper, notwithstanding the fact that it had always come in good form and that they had never before failed to receive an issue, and, finally, we were informed, through sources we cannot afford to divulge, that the issue of the paper in question had reached its destination, but that it was being held up by the postmaster. Upon the receipt of this information we immediately wrote the San Francisco postmaster as follows:

Aurora, Mo., Sept. 21st, 1911.  
Postmaster, San Francisco, Calif.  
Sir—We have received authentic information from two or three different sources that you have refused to deliver The Menace to our subscribers in that city. We first received this information about the 11th inst., and have waited until now for an official notice to that effect from you, but we have waited in vain.

If our information is correct, we demand that you comply with the law and notify us on what ground you have held up the paper, and whether or not you have taken the matter up with the third assistant postmaster general at Washington.

We understand that the objectionable feature to you is the advertisement of the book, "Priest and Woman," which has been appearing in our columns. This sounded rather flimsy, so we submitted the advertisement and the book to the postmaster at Aurora, also to our local attorney, and they both stated that it was preposterous to presume that either were not mailable.

It makes no difference to us whether you are a Catholic, anti-Catholic or what not, we shall ask the postoffice officials at Washington to see that we are given justice in this matter.

We shall expect an immediate reply from you giving an account of yourself in this case.

Respectfully,

THE MENACE, Aurora, Mo.

Let it be said to the gentleman's credit that he was courteous enough to reply to this letter, and in due course we received the following reply:

Post Office, San Francisco, Cal.  
Office of the Postmaster.

Sept. 26, 1911.  
The Menace, Aurora, Mo.

Gentlemen:—Replying to your communication of Sept. 21st. Upon complaint received in this office and after consultation with the postoffice inspector in charge, I instructed the superintendent of delivery to hold up, until instructions had been received from the postoffice department at Washington, copies of "The Menace" containing a certain advertisement of a book, "Priest and Woman," which sets forth in relation to the book following:

(We leave out ad referred to for the very good reason that the San Francisco censor would no doubt take the same advantage in this case that he did in the former. It appeared in The Menace regularly, however, until the middle of September.)

This action was taken under Section 497 and 498 of the postal laws and regulations.

Immediately upon issuing this instruction I referred a copy of your paper to the postoffice department at Washington, informing the department of my action.

In the meantime, pending instructions to the contrary from the postoffice department at Washington, copies of your paper containing this advertisement are being treated in accordance with the regulations governing unmailable matter.

Respectfully,

POSTMASTER, San Francisco.

It will be noticed that the postmaster's reply was dated Sept. 25th. We waited for a fine! hearing in the matter until another thirty days had dragged itself into history, but no message came.

Consequently on the 24th day of last month we addressed the following letter to the San Francisco press censor, better known as the postmaster:

Aurora, Mo., Oct. 24th, 1911.  
Postmaster, San Francisco, Cal.

Dear Sir:—In response to a previous inquiry from us, we have a communication from you under date of Sept. 26th stating that upon complaint, and after consultation with the postoffice inspector in charge, you had held up delivery of The Menace containing the advertisement of the book, "Priest and Woman."

In the same letter you state: "Im-

mediately upon having this in-

formation I referred a copy of your paper to the postoffice department at Washington, informing the department of my action."

We have waited thirty days for you to inform us of the outcome in this case, but so far you have been silent as the Sphinx. Will you please inform us now just what the decision of the department was? Also are you still holding up the delivery of The Menace, or did you only hold up the delivery of one issue?

If The Menace is, in any way whatever, doing anything not strictly in accord with the postal laws and its mailing privileges, it seems strange indeed that it is not given warning and extended an opportunity to rectify the error, if such has occurred. It also seems strange that we should not be informed of the results of whatever action may have been taken against us by any one, either through a local office or the department at Washington.

You will do us a favor if you will enlighten us on these points at your earliest convenience.

Yours very truly,

THE MENACE, Aurora, Mo.

The fact that we have received no reply to this letter would indicate that the efforts of the gentleman to suppress The Menace on the western coast had faded into a weakly farce. A significant thing connected with the action of the San Francisco official is the fact, so we have been later informed, that he injected charges in his report to the third assistant at Washington other than those reported to us. If this is true, it shows that this case is a game of underhanded persecution on the part of a biased and bigoted enemy of the paper, rather than an effort on his part to be alert to duty and to follow the instructions of the postoffice department, of which he is only a servant and hired man.

## Rumors From Other Sources.

If the San Francisco matter had been the only one brought to our attention we would have considered it an isolated case, and would have passed it by as such, but there are others. Here is another:

Elizabeth, N. J., Oct. 2, 1911.  
The Menace, Aurora, Mo.

There is a current rumor afloat here in Elizabeth to the effect that steps will soon be taken to have The Menace suppressed here. Thought I would put you wise.

This is the only one of four such letters which have been received from this point. Only one is given for the reason that they contain practically the same information. The signature of the writer is withheld for his protection. The original of all letters published in this paper are on file in this office.

To show that this thing is not confined to any certain locality we submit the following letter from Cincinnati:

Cincinnati, O., Oct. 25, 1911.  
Editor Menace,

Dear Sir:—It has been stated here that the postoffice department is going to stop The Menace. There is talk going around to this effect. I am writing this to put you on your guard. If they stop you here, send a notice to me and I will get a crowd to deliver the paper for you each week by hand. I belong to an organization which will give you all the help you need in this line. Don't let them scare you, but keep landing on them good and hard.

Coming on down to date we have one from Philadelphia, under the very shadow of the old Liberty Bell, which indicates the way the wind is blowing:

Philadelphia, Pa., Oct. 29, 1911.  
The Menace, Aurora, Mo.

Gentlemen:—What is the matter with No. 28 in Philadelphia? The subscribers are not receiving their papers. I can tell you now that you have the Knights of Columbus to fight in the postoffice department. The Philadelphia postoffice was nicknamed the "Cathedral" when Harry was postmaster, and the name is still significant. If there is any chance to sidetrack your paper here I believe it will be done. Some of them might take a chance of losing their jobs in order to do something heroic in that line, and you know they would be regarded as martyrs to a holy cause. The men who are shy No. 28 live in the territory of three different postoffices which makes it look as if the whole Philadelphia had been confiscated. Hoping you will not let them get you until we roll up that million circulation and show up the great international skin game, I remain,

Why this underhanded method of meddling with The Menace?

If we have violated any law of the land why are we not indicted and prosecuted in the courts by those who have been offended?

If we have libel d the Roman Catholic religion and the Roman Catholic hierarchy, why don't the Roman Catholics sue us for criminal libel in the courts of Missouri?

If the Menace violates the laws governing the postoffice department, at the department will find it out and bring action without the

pleas meddling of black rebed grafters.

The Menace is doing business according to law, according to the provisions of the postoffice department and according to the notion of four-fifths of the liberty loving patriots of America, and it is not going to be bluffed by the puny props of paganism who live in treason to the American flag and at the same time pose as the self constituted guardians of our liberties.

## BISHOP BURT HERE

Bishop Burt is the M. E. official representing and leading Methodism in Europe. He attended the Ecumenical Conference that closed a few days ago in Toronto, Canada. The bishop, a while ago sat upon the platform with Mayor Nathan in Rome and saw fifty thousand Italians in review celebrating the fall of the political power of the papacy.

As the thousands were passing by with their magnificent banners, this was seen upon one of them, two hands crossed at the wrists, tied together with chains, and under them the words, "Political Rome under the Papacy."

"The Latins," said Bishop Burt, "were the leaders in the world's thought and civilization, but Romanism has undone them."

"Do we wish to know what the papacy is as a system? Then we have simply to converse for a while with men like this bishop of our church and hear him say:

"The papacy, instead of representing Christian progress, tends to drag the world back again amid the ideas, rites, and customs of idolatrous ages. What has Romanism ever done for any country or people on the face of the earth? Read the history of France. Witness the struggle through which she has recently passed in order to be free. Look at poor, ignorant, superstitious Spain; just manifesting her first anemic longings for liberty. Watch the doings in Portugal today. Ask Italy, and her sad story is enough to convince the world that the papacy is the cruellest form of despotism that the world has ever seen. Go to Mexico, South America, Cuba, Porto Rico, the Philippine Islands, or to any other spot on this globe where Romanism has been dominant and there you will find in proportion to the absoluteness and the time of its power, ignorance, idolatry and human degradation."

Of course there is an effect that is not noticeable upon the educated class. They have simply revolted from all religion. These call themselves spiritualists, materialists, infidels, and atheists. Lawyers, physicians, artists, journalists, and business men generally are totally indifferent to religion. Socialists and radicals assert the falsity of all religious and seriously promote infidelity. In the universities both professors and students are hostile to religion. In France and Italy, out of seventy-three millions of people, less than one-third are loyal to the Roman church.

What is the result of all this? Are we to speak of the Latin races as degenerate?

"Some, remembering what the Latin races were in their supremacy and glory," said the bishop, "now speak of them in these times as degenerate and decayed, a people whose golden age is in the past, with no hopeful future before them. But no one who has read modern history and visited and studied these lands in recent years can entertain such a thought for a moment. It was in this connection that he gave utterance to the words used as an opening sentence: 'The Latin race is not dead nor dying, but is tremendously alive and looking toward the future with both eyes wide open.'—Epworth Herald.

## R. C. PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS

Newspapers almost daily give accounts of robbing, stealing, murder and arson. The strange thing about it is that the criminals are young men, some of them more boys. Not only is this true, but the crimes are on the increase. Various reasons are given for this state of thing. The best and most truthful and logical reason is that these boys and young men are idlers and truants, or if they attend school at all, they go to the Roman Catholic parochial schools.

How do we know they do? Easy enough; they are Roman Catholics. Recently, in Missouri, a priest was appointed chaplain of the penitentiary in Jefferson City, and the reason given for this appointment was: "There are so many papist prisoners—enough for a parish," says the bishop.

What is the matter with these men taught in parochial schools?

Everything. The religion taught is a religion of rites and ceremonies—religion never gets inside the boy, it is on the altar and not in the heart and in the life of the pupil.

Not this alone. These schools are anti-democratic. The pope is supreme, his flag and his word are above country, constitution and flag.

How can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit or an impure fountain send forth pure water? The Roman Catholic parochial is an Upsa tree and a fountain of bitterness and gall. The nations of the earth are cutting down the tree and the waters from Rome are wormwood to the taste of a free man.

## NOTICE

The Menace wishes to state that one W. J. DeLaney, traveling as an anti-Catholic lecturer and ex-priest, has no connection whatever with this paper and we are in no way whatever responsible for his statements or business transactions. This is published in response to several queries on this point.

It never makes Rome any whiter to white-wash her outside.

## THINGS TO REMEMBER

In dealing with The Menace will save us, as well as yourself, annoyance by observing carefully the following rules:

Address all business communications to The Menace, and not to individuals connected therewith.

If you live in a town of over one thousand, give your street address to each and every communication.

In sending subscriptions always be careful to write plainly the name and address of each person to whom you want the paper sent.

Remember that on account of the excessive postage rates the price of The Menace in Canada and all foreign countries is \$1.00 a year.

If you do not get your paper regularly, notify The Menace, and not the person who took your sub, as they are not responsible for any error that might occur.

Bundle rates, giving the price of the copies sent to one address, appear regularly in these columns. In case you want them sent to separate addresses the price will be ten cents a hundred extra.

Watch the figures on your yellow address label, as that is the number of the paper with which your subscription will expire. You should renew three weeks in advance of expiration not to miss an issue.

Owing to the enormous sale The Menace has on the news stands, surplus copies are soon exhausted. Therefore do not ask for your subscription begin with numbers further than three weeks back from the time you subscribe.

The Menace sub cards are U. S. postal cards, printed and all ready for mailing. Each card is good for one year's subscription to The Menace and it is the most convenient way yet devised for handling subscriptions. They can be had for ten cents each in lots of four or more.

In writing for publication, sending subscriptions or any other matter of communication it is not necessary to ask us to conceal your identity. We never publish names without the consent of the contributors in any case. In writing for publication, however, it is well to furnish a non de plume if you do not wish your real name given.

If you get The Menace regularly, it is paid for. If you didn't subscribe for it yourself, some friend did. You need not be afraid to take it out of the office thinking that you will get a bill for subscription later, for you will not. Every paper that goes out of the office is paid for and stops promptly when your time is out, unless it is a sample copy. If you get a sample copy it is an invitation to subscribe.

Friends of The Menace can confer a great favor on us if they will forward a street guide of their various home cities. Very often the street addresses attached to the names of new subscribers are vaguely written and hard to decipher, and if we had on hand a street directory of the various cities, especially the large ones, it would relieve us of a great deal of worry and trouble. These can be had for the asking in most places, in the cheap folder form, and would serve our purpose as well as any.

## IN A SEP OF BLOOD

Medina, Ohio, Oct. 11.

Publishers of The Menace:—I was much pleased to get a copy of your paper tonight. For a long time I have wondered if none but myself felt uneasy about the insidious growth of the papal power. It owns or intimidates all the newspapers of the land, commanding silence or extorting praise. If a new bishop is made, his picture is put in all the dailies, and the event is recorded as of great importance—and it is. It means that this national cancer is getting deeper and deeper.

This Old World despotism is aly. It is in the moving picture shows over all the land. We see nuns come in to minister to the sick and to get the public accustomed to their usages.

Worse still, these enemies of all liberty have captured the Protestant pulpit, for our own ministers are/as dumb dogs in the presence of this system that has just been expelled from France, Portugal, Italy Spain—countries where it has been the sole preacher and teacher for more than a thousand years. Will it be better here? Not rather worse. It is a controlling influence in the city council of every city and large town in the country—especially in Puritan New England.

I rejoice to see you have taken the bull by the horns, and I hope your work will spread till the evil is extirpated. But it will go down in a sea of blood. In their schools and monasteries they are arming, and their chief desire is to kill an enemy.

Yours, etc.,

True Americans will not take the politics from the Vatican.

Feeding cake to a pig doesn't make it intelligent, nor does putting a pig in office make him a patriot.